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DRAFT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application
Inventor(s):   Carey Garibay, et al.
Appln. No.:   10/655,811
Confirm. No.: 7109
Filed: September 5, 2003
Title: SELF-SERVICE CUSTOMER LICENSE
MANAGEMENT APPLICATION USING A GROUP
ADMINISTRATION APPLICATION

PATENT APPLICATION

Art Unit: 3621.
Examiner: Christopher C. Johns

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PAGE 3/8 * RCVD AT 5/2/2008 5:42:21 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-6/27 * DNIS:2738300 * CSID:415 362 2928 * DURATION (mm-ss):01-50

AMENDMENT

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended):   A method comprising:

maintaining digital records of software licenses for multiple groups, the digital records indicating rights associated with software licenses;

accessing a group administration application to set access rules for members of a group, the access rules controlling the access of digital record data of the group by members of the group; and

using the access rules to determine whether to allow a member of the group to view digital record data;

wherein when the member is allowed to view the digital record data, displaying the digital record data to the member including displaying a right associated with one of the software licenses, the displayed right indicating an IP address at which software associated with the one of the software licenses is locked.

2. (Currently Amended):   The method of claim 1, wherein the access rules ~~can be~~ set to allow some group members to see but not to modify the software license data.

3. (Currently Amended):   The method of claim 1, wherein the access rules ~~can be~~ set to restrict access based upon inputted field information to some group members.

4. (Original): The method of claim 3, wherein the inputted field information is a department field and the access rules are such that some group members can only access software license information associated with their department.

5. (Currently Amended):   The method of claim 1, wherein the group administration application ~~can be~~ is used to require group members to input field data.

6. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1, wherein selected access rules ~~can allow~~ allows a group member to access a digital record and adjust the rights associated with the software license.

7. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1, wherein the group administration application ~~is adapted to allow production of~~ produces reports concerning the software licenses of the group.

8. (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the group administration application is part of a web based application.

9. (Original): The method of claim 8, wherein the web application uses role based security.

10. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1, wherein configuration information for the computers running software associated with the software licenses are stored in the digital records.

11. (Currently Amended): A license management system comprising:
    a memory adapted to store digital records of software licenses for multiple groups, the digital records indicating rights associated with a software licenses; and
    a processor adapted to execute a group administration application for setting access rules for members of a group, the rules controlling the access of digital record data of the group by members of the group, wherein the access rules are used to determine whether to allow a member of the group to view digital record data;
    wherein when the member is allowed to view the digital record data, displaying the digital record data to the member including displaying a right associated with one of the software licenses, the displayed right indicating an IP address at which software associated with the one of the software licenses is locked.

12. (Currently Amended): The license management system of claim 11, wherein the access rules ~~can be~~ are set to allow some group members to see but not to modify the software license data.

13. (Currently Amended): The license management system of claim 11, wherein the access rules ~~can be~~ are set to restrict access based upon inputted field information to some group members.

14. (Original): The license management system of claim 13, wherein the inputted field information is a customer defined field and the access rules are such that some group members can only access software license information associated with the customer definition.

15. (Currently Amended): The license management system of claim 11, wherein the group administration application ~~can be~~ is used to require group members to input field data.

16. (Currently Amended): The license management system of claim 11, wherein selected access rules [[can]] are set to allow a group member to access a digital record and adjust the rights associated with the software license.

17. (Currently Amended): The license management system of claim 11, wherein the group administration application ~~is adapted to allow production of~~ produces reports concerning the software licenses of the group.

18. (Original): The license management system of claim 11, wherein the group administration application is part of a web based application.

19. (Original): The license management system of claim 18, wherein the web application uses role based security.

20. (Previously Presented): The license management system of claim 1, wherein configuration information for the computers running software associated with the software licenses are stored in the digital records.

21. (Currently Amended):   A computer readable ~~media~~ storage medium comprising code to instruct a computer to do the steps of:

maintaining digital records of software licenses for multiple groups, the digital records indicating rights associated with software licenses;

in response to input to a group administration application, setting access rules for members of a group, the access rules controlling the access of digital record data of the group by members of the group; and

using the access rules to determine whether to allow a member of the group to view digital record data;

wherein when the member is allowed to view the digital record data, displaying the digital record data to the member including displaying a right associated with one of the software licenses, the displayed right indicating an IP address at which software associated with the one of the software licenses is locked.

22. (Currently Amended):   The computer readable storage medium of claim 21, wherein the access rules ~~can be~~ are set to allow some group members to see but not to modify the software license data.

23. (Currently Amended):   The computer readable storage medium of claim 21, wherein the access rules ~~can be~~ are set to restrict access based upon inputted field information to some group members.

24. (Previously Presented):   The computer readable storage medium of claim 23, wherein the inputted field information is a department field and the access rules are such that some group members can only access software license information associated with their department.

25. (Currently Amended):   The computer readable storage medium of claim 21, wherein the group administration application ~~can be~~ is used to require group members to input field data.

26. (Currently Amended): The computer readable storage medium readable media of claim 21, wherein selected access rules [[can]] allow a group member to access a digital record and adjust the rights associated with the software license.

27. (Currently Amended): The computer readable storage medium of claim 21, wherein the group administration application is adapted to allow the production of produces reports concerning the software licenses of the group

28. (Previously Presented): The computer readable storage medium of claim 21, wherein the group administration application is part of a web based application.

29. (Previously Presented): The computer readable storage medium of claim 28, wherein the web application uses role based security.

30. (Previously Presented): The computer readable storage medium of claim 21, wherein configuration information for the computers running the software are stored in the digital records.